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FORMER CIA HEAD REVEALS COVERT OPERATIONS
MEDFORD, MA

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☐ Former CIA Director Stansfield Turner revealed he approved three covert operations in Iran without first telling Congress and criticized the reporting law as compromising intelligence efforts.

Turner, who served under President Carter, told a group Tuesday at Tufts University the reporting law requiring Congress be informed of covert operations risks a security leak and endangers agents.

"As long as you have the reporting requirement, I don't believe you can get away (forever) with a covert action without someone leaking it," Turner said. "Covert action must be in support of foreign policy."

But Turner charged the Reagan administration with using covert action "as a substitute for foreign policy."

Turner said present administration officials may have broken the law in the Iran arms-Contra aid scandal because of an amendment that restricted aid to the Contra rebels fighting the Sandanista government in Nicaragua.

"There's no question in my mind that President Reagan, Oliver North, John Poindexter and Donald Regan violated at least the skirt of the Boland Amendment," he said.

Turner said he had gained presidential approval to help free Americans hidden at the Canadian Embassy in Iran and to test landing sites and place agents as support staff for an aborted rescue mission.